

March 11th

LITHUANIA

RESTORATION OF LITHUANIA'S INDEPENDENCE DAY

On 11th March, 1990 The Supreme Council of the Republic of Lithuania signed the Act of Lithuania's Independence Restoration, which states that sovereign powers, which were withdrawn by the foreign forces in 1940, are restored and now Lithuania is an independent country. The Act is based on the Act of Independence signed on 16th February 1918. The Act of 11th March was signed by the President of the Supreme Council Vytautas Landsbergis and the Council members.

Russia did not want to recognize Lithuania's independence. On 8th January, 1991 Soviet defense minister Dmitri Yazov ordered the paratroopers to enter the Baltics. On January 12, armoured vehicles from Pskov were moving into the streets of Vilnius. At night of January 13th Lithuanians intended to protect the press building, the tower, and parliament in Vilnius. While defending the Television tower, 14 people were killed. The world condemned Russia's actions. Russia recognized independence of Lithuania on 29 July 1991 by signing the Treaty with Lithuania on cross-border relations.



The Liberty Statue in Kaunas (a photo taken <http://www.lrs.lt/datos/kovo11/>)